

SUMMARY OF POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

A profile of the 1960 population of our urban area, which consisted of the City of Fayetteville, Bonnie Doone, East Fayetteville, Fayetteville North, South Fayetteville, and Owens, reveals some of the most significant characteristics of our people.

First of all, our population was a decidedly young one. There has been a great influx of persons in their twenties into our urban area. Our urban area had more of its adults married than was the case for the State's urban areas as a whole. Consequently, we had a lesser number of our adults single, and also a lesser number widowed or divorced. Our "young" population is also a highly fertile one which has been producing a far larger number of children, relatively speaking, than urban areas in the State as a whole. In addition to being young and fertile, our population is highly "dependent"; that is, we have a larger ratio between the number of persons under 15 years of age and 65 and over, and the number of persons between 15 and 65.

Half of all families in our urban area had incomes less than \$3,889 in 1959. This "median" income was nearly \$1,000 less than that of the State's urban areas as a whole, and nearly \$1,800 less than that of the Nation. This would seem to indicate that in spite of the tremendous growth in the urban area, job opportunities are limited. In this light, community planning should do everything possible to provide a stimulus for our industrial development program.

Persons in the elderly age groups comprised a smaller proportion of the population than was the case for the State's urban areas. Females outnumbered males in our area as they did in urban areas across the State.

One out of every three persons in our urban area was non-white. These non-whites were generally even younger than the white population; they were also far more fertile and have been producing a greater number of children, relatively speaking, than the whites.

Since 1940, the very young age groups and the elderly age groups in the urban area have been increasing at a more rapid rate than the rest of the population; the male-female ratio has been fairly constant; and the proportion of non-whites in the population has been declining.

Armed forces personnel in the urban area formed an overwhelmingly larger proportion of the labor force than they did in urban areas in the State as a whole. Females in the urban area participated in the labor force to a lesser extent than they did in the State's urban areas.